

App. Serial No.: 10/736,233
Atty. Docket No.: 0051-011P1

IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A decorative structure, comprising:
 - a length of strand material, said strand material including a plurality of individual strands twisted with respect to one another, said strands being fixed with respect to one another near first ends of said strands;
 - a twisting member having a plurality of apertures formed therein, each of said apertures adapted to receive a respective one of said individual strands therethrough; and
 - an anchoring member disposed near said first ends of said strands, said anchoring member adapted to anchor said decorative structure to a support surface; and wherein

each of said strands is positioned through a respective one of said apertures, and whereby

advancing said twisting member from second ends of said strands toward said first ends of said strands causes said strand material to unwind.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) A decorative structure according to ~~Claim 2~~ Claim 1, wherein advancing said twisting member from said first ends of said strands toward said second ends of said strands causes said strand material to wind up.
4. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, further including a coupling device disposed near said first ends of said strands, said coupling device adapted to fix said strands together with respect to one another.
5. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 4, wherein said coupling device comprises a weld.

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6. (currently amended) A decorative structure according to ~~Claim 5~~ Claim 1, wherein said ~~coupling device comprises said anchoring member~~ is adapted to fix said strands together with respect to one another near said first ends of said strands.

7. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, wherein said strand material comprises strand steel.

8. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, further including a cover for covering said first ends of said strands.

9. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 8, wherein said anchoring member is adapted to mount to said cover.

10. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, wherein said twisting member comprises a disc.

11. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 10, wherein said disc includes at least one aperture for each said individual strand of said strand material.

12. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of said apertures formed in said twisting member is oblong in shape.

13. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, further including a strand retainer for retaining said strands in a wound state.

14. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 13, wherein said strand retainer comprises an annular ring, said annular ring having an inner diameter slightly larger than the diameter of said strand material when said strands are in said wound state.

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15. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 14, wherein said annular ring is disposed between said first ends of said strands and said twisting member, whereby moving said twisting member toward said first ends causes said annular ring to move toward said first ends of said strands.

16. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, further comprising at least one twisting member retainer for retaining at least one of said strands in one of said apertures of said twisting member.

17. (currently amended) The A decorative structure according to Claim 1, whereby wherein twisting said twisting member about a longitudinal axis of said strand material will cause said individual strands of said strand material to wind or unwind with respect to one another depending on the direction of rotation of said twisting member.

18. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, wherein said strands are formed of a semi-rigid material such that said decorative structure is capable of supporting at least one container near second ends of said strands.

19. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, wherein said anchoring member is conically shaped such that said anchoring member can be pressed into said support surface.

20. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 19, wherein said decorative structure further includes a press plate for receiving pressure thereon to press said anchoring member into said support surface.

21. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, wherein said decorative structure includes at least one container adapted to engage at least one of said individual strands.

Claims 22-44 (canceled)

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45. (new) A decorative structure according to Claim 1, wherein said anchoring member supports second ends of said strands above said first ends of said strands.

46. (new) A decorative structure comprising:

a length of strand material, said strand material including a plurality of individual strands twisted with respect to one another, said strands being fixed with respect to one another near first ends of said strands;
a twisting member having a plurality of apertures formed therein, each of said apertures adapted to receive a respective one of said individual strands therethrough; and
an anchoring member disposed near said first ends of said strands, said anchoring member adapted to anchor said decorative structure to a support surface; and
wherein said strand material comprises strand steel.

47. (new) A decorative structure comprising:

a length of strand material, said strand material including a plurality of individual strands twisted with respect to one another, said strands being fixed with respect to one another near first ends of said strands;
a twisting member having a plurality of apertures formed therein, each of said apertures adapted to receive a respective one of said individual strands therethrough;
an anchoring member disposed near said first ends of said strands, said anchoring member adapted to anchor said decorative structure to a support surface; and
a strand retainer for retaining said strands in a wound state.

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48. (new) A decorative structure according to Claim 47, wherein said strand retainer comprises an annular ring, said annular ring having an inner diameter slightly larger than the diameter of said strand material when said strands are in said wound state.

49. (new) A decorative structure according to Claim 48, wherein said annular ring is disposed between said first ends of said strands and said twisting member, whereby moving said twisting member toward said first ends causes said annular ring to move toward said first ends of said strands.

50. (new) A decorative structure comprising:

- a length of strand material, said strand material including a plurality of individual strands twisted with respect to one another, said strands being fixed with respect to one another near first ends of said strands;
- a twisting member having a plurality of apertures formed therein, each of said apertures adapted to receive a respective one of said individual strands therethrough;
- an anchoring member disposed near said first ends of said strands, said anchoring member adapted to anchor said decorative structure to a support surface; and
- at least one twisting member retainer for retaining at least one of said strands in one of said apertures of said twisting member.

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51. (new) A decorative structure comprising:

- a length of strand material, said strand material including a plurality of individual strands twisted with respect to one another, said strands being fixed with respect to one another near first ends of said strands;
- a twisting member having a plurality of apertures formed therein, each of said apertures adapted to receive a respective one of said individual strands therethrough, whereby twisting said twisting member about a longitudinal axis of said strand material will cause said individual strands of said strand material to wind or unwind with respect to one another depending on the direction of rotation of said twisting member; and
- an anchoring member disposed near said first ends of said strands, said anchoring member adapted to anchor said decorative structure to a support surface.

52. (new) A decorative structure comprising:

- a length of strand material, said strand material including a plurality of individual strands twisted with respect to one another, said strands being fixed with respect to one another near first ends of said strands;
- a twisting member having a plurality of apertures formed therein, each of said apertures adapted to receive a respective one of said individual strands therethrough; and
- an anchoring member disposed near said first ends of said strands, said anchoring member adapted to anchor said decorative structure to a support surface; and wherein said anchoring member is conically shaped such that said anchoring member can be pressed into said support surface.

53. (original) A decorative structure according to Claim 52, wherein said decorative structure further includes a press plate for receiving pressure thereon to press said anchoring member into said support surface.